



Montana Drought Advisory Committee



Montana Agricultural
Statistics Service

Peggy Stringer
Director

July 20, 2007

Hot, dry weather increased crop maturity



July 20, 2007

**July 1 forecast
indicates**

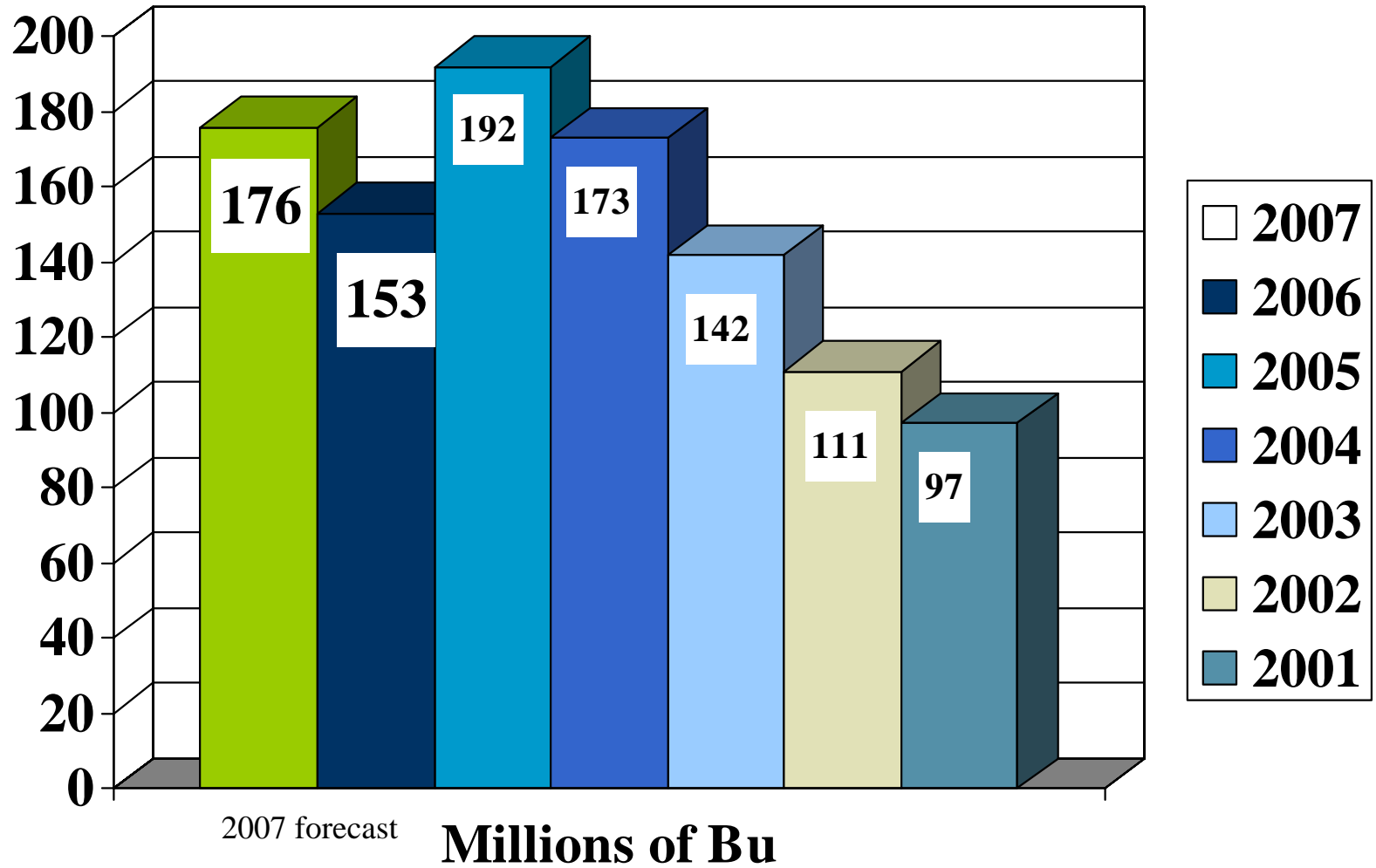
**All Wheat production
is up 15% from last
year**

**Winter wheat
production is up 9%
from last year**



July 20, 2007

All Wheat Production 2007-2001



July 20, 2007

Winter Wheat July 1 Production Forecast



Harvested acreage

- 2.15 million acres
- Up 230,000 acres from last year

Crop development ahead of 5-year average

**Harvest underway with 3% complete
for the week ending July 15**

Winter Wheat July 1 Production Forecast



Production

- 90.3 million bu
- Up 9% from last year

Yield

- 2007 yield forecast 42.0 bu ac
 - Same as June 1, 2007 forecast
 - Down 1 bu from last year
 - 5.6 bu higher than 10-year average of 36 bu

Winter Wheat July 1 Production Forecast



On July 1 indications point to a
good winter wheat crop

August 1 Forecast August 10

Final winter wheat estimates

*Small grains summary released
September 28*

July 20, 2007

Spring Planted Crops

- Spring grains stressed due to dry, hot conditions
- Spring wheat progress behind last year, but nearly the same as 5-year average



Spring Wheat July 1 Production Forecast



Planted acreage

- 2.55 million acres
- Down 400,000 acres from last year

Harvested acreage

- 2.50 million acres
- Down 400,000 acres from last year

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Spring Wheat July 1 Production Forecast



Production

- 72.5 million bu
- Up 14% from last year

Yield

- 29.0 bu per ac
- 7.0 bu more than last year
- 2.7 bu higher than the 10-year average of 26 bu

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Durum Wheat July 1 Production Forecast



Planted acreage

- 530,000 acres
- Up 130,000 acres from last year

Harvested acreage

- 525,000 acres
- Up 33% from last year

Durum Wheat July 1 Production Forecast



Production

- 13.7 million bu
- Up 103% from last year

Yield

- 26.0 bu per ac
- Up 9 bu from last year

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Barley July 1 Production Forecast



Planted acreage

- 900,000 acres
- Up 130,000 acres from last year

Harvested acreage

- 730,000 acres
- Up 110,000 acres from last year

Barley July 1 Production Forecast



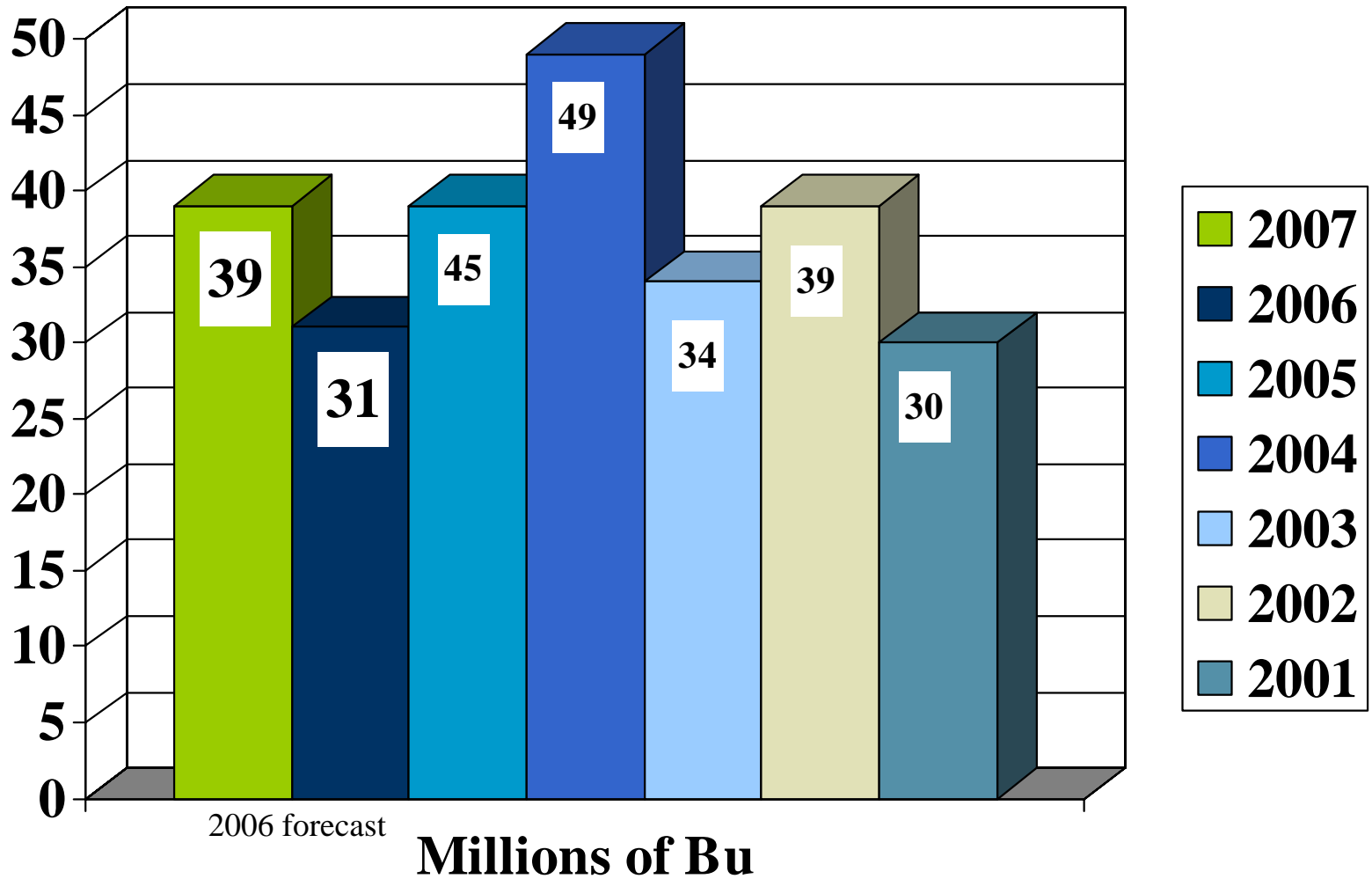
Production

- 39.4 million bu
- Compared with 31.0 million bu last year

Yield

- 54.0 bu per ac
- 4 bu more than last year
- 6.1 bu higher than the 10-year average of 48 bu

Barley Production 2006-2001



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Topsoil Moisture Ahead Last Year/Same as 5-Year Avg.



<i>July 15, 2007</i>	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr Avg
Very short - short	61%	51%	84%	61%
Adequate	37%	46%	16%	37%
Surplus	2%	3%	0%	2%

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Subsoil Moisture Ahead of Last Year & 5-Year Avg.

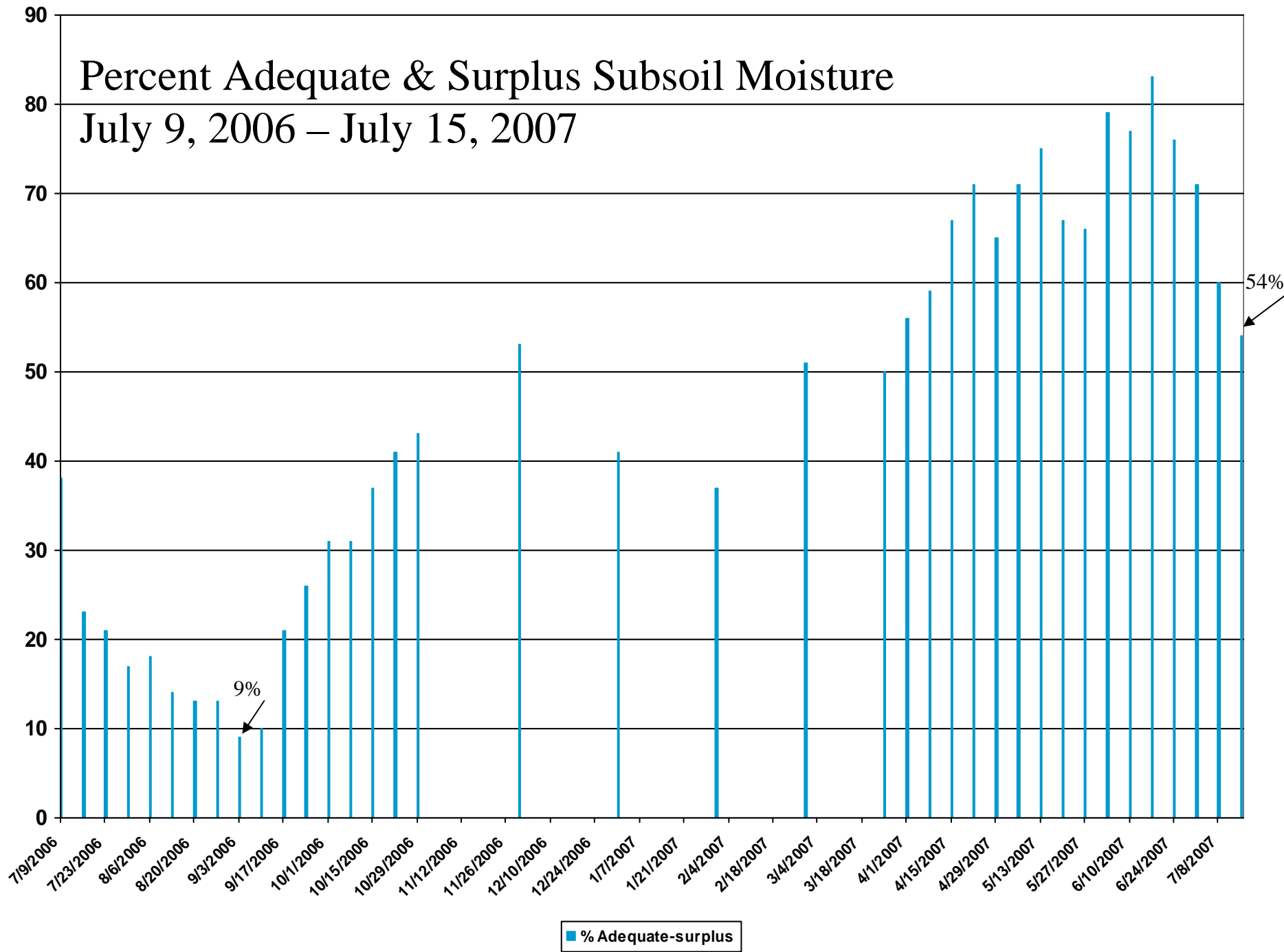


<i>July 15, 2007</i>	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr Avg
Very short – short	46%	40%	74%	65%
Adequate	51%	57%	25%	34%
Surplus	3%	3%	1%	1%

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Percent Adequate & Surplus Subsoil Moisture

July 9, 2006 – July 15, 2007



Crop Weather Report

Week Ending July 15, 2007



- Hot, dry weather stressed spring seeded crops
- Spring wheat, barley, and oats were almost done heading
- Winter wheat harvest had just begun in the North Central district

July 20, 2007

Winter Wheat Crop Condition Ahead of Last Year and Five-Year Average



	Very poor- Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
<i>July 15, 2007</i>				
This week	9%	22%	43%	26%
Last week	12%	27%	47%	14%
Last year	6%	37%	42%	15%
5-yr avg.	13%	32%	41%	14%

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Winter Wheat Progress Behind Last Yr. but same as 5-Yr. Avg.



<i>July 15, 2007</i>	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr avg
Winter wheat Harvested	3%	n/a	14%	3%

July 20, 2007

Spring Wheat Crop Condition Ahead Last Yr & 5-Yr Avg



<i>July 15, 2007</i>	Very poor- Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
This week	18%	17%	55%	10%
Last week	15%	19%	56%	10%
Last year	21%	42%	33%	4%
5-yr avg	13%	30%	49%	8%

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Crop Progress Percent



<i>July 15, 2007</i>	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr avg
Spring wheat				
headed	79%	60%	91%	78%
turning	20%	5%	33%	18%
Barley				
headed	88%	74%	76%	77%
turning	28%	15%	22%	19%

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Barley Crop Condition Ahead of Last Year



<i>July 15, 2007</i>	Very poor- Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
This week	26%	15%	48%	11%
Last week	23%	19%	49%	9%
Last year	12%	38%	38%	12%
5-yr avg	12%	28%	47%	13%

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Last week's hot weather spurred hay harvesting



<i>July 15, 2007</i>	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr avg
Alfalfa hay First cutting	94%	80%	92%	84%
Other hay First cutting	84%	76%	84%	70%

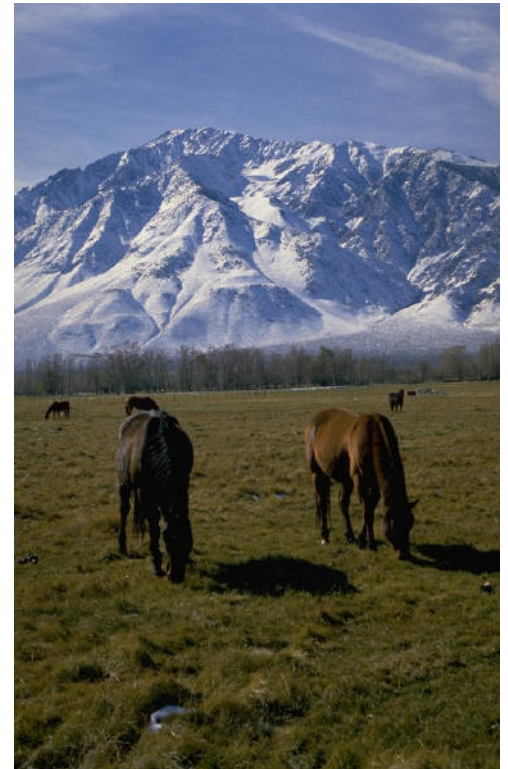
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Livestock Grazing

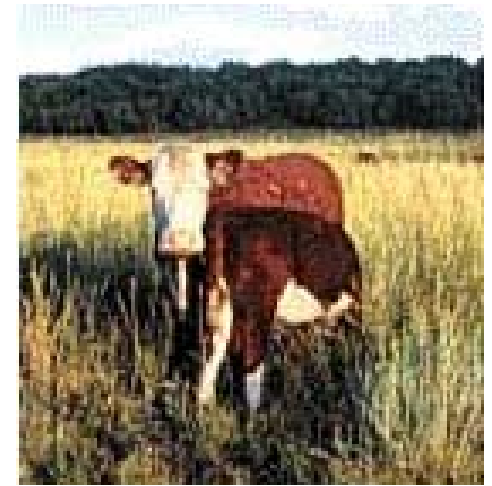
- Range and pasture feed condition ahead of last year and 5-year avg.



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Range & Pasture Condition



<i>July 15, 2007</i>	This week	Last week	Last year	5-yr avg
Very poor-poor	13%	13%	23%	29%
Fair	25%	26%	39%	34%
Good	47%	46%	32%	31%
Excellent	15%	15%	6%	6%

July 20, 2007

To Sum It Up??

Hill County- “Too much heat. Strong winds laid down quite a bit of winter wheat...guessing 20-30%. Most will be lost by harvest, which will probably start in 10 days.”

Chouteau County - “Hard to say anything but extremely hot and dry. The heat is really burning up the spring crops. They went from just heading out to trying to fill a head in survival mode. Hard to say if they can hold on to produce anything.”

Toole County - “HOT...a week of temps in the mid to upper nineties. I am lowering spring wheat yields a bit, although crops have held up surprisingly well. No rain for a month now.”

July 20, 2007



To Sum It Up



- Winter wheat crop harvest ramping up
- All wheat & winter wheat production up from last year
- Durum wheat production more than doubled from last year
- August 1 Forecast August 10
- Final small grains production September 28
- Fire activity is a concern in most areas of state